

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 16631 01 OF 02 250842Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 ICAE-00 CIAE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 OIC-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10  
EUR-12 NEA-11 /085 W  
-----110581 250846Z /10

O R 250837Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2072  
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 16631

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, IS, PO, UNESCO  
SUBJECT: UNESCO: 104TH EXBD: TACTICS FOR DEALING  
WITH ISSUES CONCERNING ISRAEL

1. MEIR JOFFE, ISRAELI PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UNESCO, CALLED ON AMBASSADOR MAY 24 TO DISCUSS TACTICS FOR HANDLING THE TWO ITEMS CONCERNING ISRAEL THAT REMAIN ON THE EXBD AGENDA: ITEM 5.1.5, THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S MISSION TO THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, COMING UP MAY 30; AND ITEM 7.L.6, COOPERATION WITH THE COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, COMING UP JUNE 6 OR 8 FOR PLENARY ACTION.
2. RE 5.1.5, JOFFE POINTS OUT THERE STILL IS NO FINAL REPORT. THERE IS A DRAFT REPORT THAT ALL MISSION MEMBERS EXCEPT THE SWISS AGREE WITH AND ARE PREPARED TO SIGN, BUT THE SWISS IS HOLDING OUT BECAUSE HE CONSIDERS CONFIDENTIAL

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THE DRAFT TOO PRO-ISRAELI. JOFFE EXPECTS THAT THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, HAVING NO WRITTEN REPORT TO PRESENT, WILL MAKE ORAL COMMENTS, BUT HE FEELS THAT THESE ORAL COMMENTS WILL OPEN THE WAY TO DEBATE. FURTHERMORE, HE FEARS THERE MIGHT BE AN ATTEMPT TO GET A RESOLUTION THAT WOULD BE CRITICAL OF ISRAEL. IN HIS OPINION, THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE RESOLUTION ON THIS ITEM, SINCE THERE IS NO

REPORT ON WHICH TO BASE A SUBSTANTIVE RESOLUTION, WOULD BE ONE OF A PROCEDURAL NATURE ASKING THE DG TO PRESENT THE FINAL REPORT TO THE 20TH GENERAL CONFERENCE.

3. ON 7.1.6, J.FFE URGED THAT USDEL OPEN THE MATTER FOR FURTHER ACTION BY MAKING A STATEMENT ON THE RESOLUTION, WHICH WAS ADOPTED IN COMMISSION ON MAY 11, AND THEN ASK FOR A ROLL CALL VOTE. THE OBJECT OF A ROLL CALL IS TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF SUPPORTING VOTES BELOW THE 25 THAT WERE CAST IN COMMISSION. JOFFE FEELS THAT A ROLL CALL WILL FORCE CERTAIN MEMBERS (E.G., PINTASILGO OF PORTUGAL) TO VOTE THEIR INSTRUCTIONS INSTEAD OF THEIR PERSONAL PREFERENCES. IT IS POSSIBLE TO BOLT ONE'S INSTRUCTIONS IN A SHOW OF HANDS VOTE, BECAUSE THE COUNT IS RARELY COMPLETELY ACCURATE AND IT IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO DENY ACCUSATIONS OF HAVING VOTED THE WRONG WAY. NOT SO IN A ROLL CALL. JOFFE ALSO PROPOSED THAT WORD BE CIRCULATED IN ADVANCE THAT A ROLL CALL WOULD BE TAKEN ON THIS ITEM. THAT WOULD GIVE THOSE MEMBERS WHO SAT ON THEIR HANDS DURING THE COMMISSION VOTE A CHANCE TO BE OUT OF THE ROOM. IF THEY WERE TO BE CAUGHT BY SURPRISE IN THE ROOM WHEN A ROLL CALL WAS DEMANDED, THEY MIGHT FEEL THEY HAD TO VOTE THE WRONG WAY.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 16631

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4. JOFFE SAID THAT GOI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WOULD BE WORKING WITH DEPARTMENT ON APPROACHES TO CAPITALS, AND REQUESTED OUR COOPERATION HERE IN LOBBYING WITH EXBD MEMBERS. PERMDEL RECOMMENDS THAT NO APPROACHES BE MADE TO AFRICAN CAPITALS, BUT THAT AFRICAN MEMBERS BE DEALT WITH HERE. JOFFE HAD INFORMATION THAT THE DG HAS TAKEN STEPS TO ENLIST AID OF THE AFRICAN MEMBERS IN HEADING OFF CONTENTIOUS ACTION ON THESE TWO ITEMS, AND THIS IS MORE LIKELY TO PRODUCE THE DESIRED RESULTS THAN APPROACHES IN AFRICAN CAPITALS.

5. RE A ROLL CALL VOTE ON 7.1.6, JOFFE IS PROBABLY RIGHT. OF THE COUNTRIES THAT VOTED WITH US IN THE ROLL CALL VOTE IN PLENARY ON THE WHO RESOLUTION OF MAY 23, SEVEN ARE REPRESENTED ON THE EXBD: AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, FRANCE, ITALY, NORWAY, THE UK AND SWITZERLAND. OF THOSE WHO ABSTAINED ON THE WHO VOTE, TWELVE ARE REPRESENTED ON THE EXBD: BRAZIL, ECUADOR, IVORY COAST, CONFIDENTIAL

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JAPAN, MEXICO, NEPAL, PANAMA, PERU, PHILIPPINES, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA AND VENEZUELA. IF THEY MERELY MAINTAIN THE SAME PATTERN IN THE UNESCO EXBD VOTES, THIS GROUP, PLUS THE UNITED STATES, WOULD GUARANTEE THAT THE VOTES WOULD BE NO WORSE THAN THE COMMISSION VOTE ON 7.1.6 --25 IN FAVOR--. IF THE DG COULD MOVE A FEW AFRICAN MEMBERS AWAY FROM THE "YES" POSITION THEY TOOK IN THE COMMISSION VOTE, THEN TOTAL SUPPORT WOULD INDEED BE LOWER. IT IS A GAMBLE, BUT WORTH TRYING.

6. JOFFE SAID GOI AMBASSADOR EMILE NAJAR WILL RETURN TO PARIS SHORTLY, BUT HE PLANS TO MAINTAIN A VERY LOW PROFILE.

7. REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS ON WHETHER OR NOT USDEL SHOULD ASK FOR A ROLL CALL VOTE ON ITEM 7.1.6 WHEN IT ARISES IN PLENARY.  
TORRES

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## Message Attributes

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20 Mar 2014  
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